



Idaho Potatoes

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Idaho Potato Production Up 12 Percent

Idaho's potato production is expected to total 131 million cwt, up 12 percent from last year's 116 million cwt and 1 percent above the 2007 crop. Planted acres of 320,000 and harvested acres of 319,000 are up 15,000 acres from 2008. Statewide, yield is 411 cwt (field-run basis), up 28 cwt from last year and 25 cwt more than the previous record of 386 achieved in 2006. Yield in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 500 cwt, decreased 40 cwt from 2008. Acreage for the 10 Southwest counties, at 19,000 acres planted and harvested, increased 4,000 acres from last year. Because of the acreage increase, total production in the area is up 17 percent from last year at 9.50 million cwt. In Idaho's "other counties," yield is estimated at 405 cwt, compared to 375 cwt a year ago. This is the highest yield recorded for this area. Other area production from 300,000 harvested acres is expected to total 122 million cwt, 12 percent above last year's 108 million cwt.

United States Highlights

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2009 is forecast at 392 million cwt, up 3 percent from 2008. Area harvested, at 919,900 acres, is virtually unchanged from the July estimate. The average yield, forecast at 426 cwt per acre, is up 15 cwt per acre from last year's yield and, if realized, will be the highest yield on record.

Western States: In eastern Washington, potato harvest was near completion. Despite weather delays, progress was the same as last year's pace and the 5-year average. In Colorado, growing conditions were favorable in the San Luis Valley, however, an early frost and disease led to an increase in abandonment this year. Oregon's crop had a normal start without any widespread delays during planting. In California, favorable weather conditions aided yields and resulted in good crop quality reports from growers.

United States Highlights (continued)

Central States: In North Dakota, planting began later than normal and remained behind average throughout the planting season. Crop condition was rated fair to good throughout the growing season. Wisconsin growers reported above average crop conditions and good quality. Cool temperatures and timely rain provided good growing conditions for Michigan potatoes. Late blight was reported across the State, but farmers were able to take corrective action when needed.

Eastern States: In Maine, cool, dry conditions aided growers with an early start to potato planting. Warm weather was welcomed in mid-August, but dry conditions continued into mid-September, preventing tubers from increasing in size.

Acreage By Variety

Data from the Potato Objective Yield Survey show that the Russet Burbank variety accounts for 56.2 percent of the potato acreage planted in Idaho. Ranger Russet accounts for 15.0 percent of plantings, and Russet Norkotah is 14.6 percent of the total. Premier Russet, at 2.8 percent, and Western Russet, at 2.3 percent, complete the top five varieties planted in Idaho for the 2009 crop. Other published varieties include Umatilla Russet, at 1.7 percent, Shepody, at 1.6 percent, Alturas, at 1.2 percent, and Frito-Lay varieties, at 1.0 percent.

In addition to Idaho, planted acreage by variety is published for seven other states: Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin. Colorado conducts an independent survey and is not included in the seven state total. Russet Burbank accounts for 44.7 percent of the planted acreage in the seven states. Russet Burbank is the top variety in five of the eight states. Russet Norkotah is the leading variety in Colorado and Oregon, while Frito Lay varieties account for the greatest percentage of acreage in Wisconsin. Russet Norkotah is second among varieties planted in the seven states and accounts for 12.2 percent of the acreage in the seven state total. Ranger Russet follows with 10.8 percent of the planted acreage in the seven state total. Frito-Lay varieties are next with 4.5 percent of the acreage planted in the seven states. Umatilla Russet is fifth with 4.2 percent of the planted acreage, and Norland is sixth with 3.9 percent of the planted acreage in the seven states.

Potato Objective Yield Survey:

Fall Potatoes: Percent of Major Varieties Planted, Selected States and 7 State Total, 2008 Crop and 2009 Crop

State and Varieties	2008 Percent of Planted Acres	2009 Percent of Planted Acres	State and Varieties	2008 Percent of Planted Acres	2009 Percent of Planted Acres
Idaho			Total (7 States) 1/		
Russet Burbank	57.4	56.2	Russet Burbank	41.0	44.7
Ranger Russet	15.0	15.0	Russet Norkotah	13.5	12.2
Russet Norkotah	13.1	14.6	Ranger Russet	10.8	10.8
Premier Russet	*	2.8	Frito-Lay Varieties	3.9	4.5
Western Russet	2.7	2.3	Umatilla Russet	4.7	4.2
Umatilla Russet	1.6	1.7	Norland	3.6	3.9
Shepody	2.1	1.6	Alturas	1.9	2.4
Alturas	1.6	1.2	Premier Russet	1.1	2.2
Frito-Lay Varieties	1.3	1.0	Shepody	4.7	2.1
Other Varieties	5.2	3.6	Goldrush	1.3	1.1
			Western Russet	1.0	1.0
Colorado 2/			Yukon Gold	1.1	0.9
Russet Norkotah	55.2	42.5	Chieftain	0.4	0.9
Canela Russet	8.7	11.9	Dakota Pearl	0.5	0.7
Centennial Russet	5.6	9.9	Silverton Russet	0.6	0.7
Rio Grande Russet	9.6	7.1	Snowden	0.3	0.7
Yukon Gold	3.9	2.8	Superior	0.6	0.6
Russet Nugget	3.7	2.8	Atlantic	0.3	0.5
Satina	1.7	2.5	Pike	0.3	0.4
Latona	*	1.3	Bannock	0.3	0.3
Gala	*	1.1	Ivory Crisp	0.3	0.3
Other Varieties	11.6	18.1	Sangre	0.2	0.3
			Red LaSoda	0.4	0.2
Oregon			Cascade	0.2	0.2
Russet Norkotah	23.8	26.6	Klondike Rose	*	0.2
Russet Burbank	22.1	20.1	Katahdin	0.2	0.2
Ranger Russet	12.2	17.7	Monona	*	0.2
Premier Russet	3.1	6.1	Dakota Crisp	0.3	0.1
Alturas	4.3	5.9	NorValley	0.2	0.1
Shepody	12.0	5.9	Mazama	*	0.1
Frito-Lay Varieties	5.3	5.6	Reba	0.2	0.1
Umatilla Russet	7.5	5.0	Dakota Rose	0.2	0.1
Pike	*	1.8	Bintje	*	0.1
Dakota Pearl	*	1.6	Ontario	0.2	0.1
Other Varieties	9.7	3.7	Defender	0.1	0.1
			Other Varieties	5.6	2.8
Washington					
Russet Burbank	27.1	30.8			
Russet Norkotah	9.6	14.5			
Ranger Russet	19.2	13.9			
Umatilla Russet	15.1	11.9			
Alturas	5.7	7.9			
Chieftain	1.7	3.6			
Premier Russet	2.4	3.4			
Frito-Lay Varieties	2.1	3.4			
Shepody	10.6	2.3			
Other Varieties	6.5	8.3			

* Data not published in 2008. Included in Other Varieties.

1/ The seven state total includes ID, ME, MN, ND, OR, WA, and WI. The 2008 total also includes Colorado.

2/ Colorado conducts an independent variety survey and is not included in the 7 state total for 2009.

**Potatoes: Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production
by Seasonal Group, State, and United States, 2008 – 2009**

States	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<u>1,000 Cwt</u>		<u>Cwt</u>		<u>1,000 Cwt</u>			
WINTER 1/	11.0	9.0	11.0	8.7	230	245	2,530	2,132
SPRING 1/	70.3	75.6	68.8	73.4	293	291	20,132	21,325
SUMMER 1/	47.2	43.9	45.1	42.5	306	346	13,805	14,705
FALL								
California	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	470	495	3,948	4,158
Colorado	57.0	56.0	56.9	55.2	385	395	21,907	21,804
IDAHO, ALL	305.0	320.0	304.0	319.0	383	411	116,475	131,000
- 10 SW Counties	15.0	19.0	15.0	19.0	540	500	8,100	9,500
- Other Areas	290.0	301.0	289.0	300.0	375	405	108,375	121,500
Maine	56.0	56.0	54.7	55.5	270	270	14,769	14,985
Massachusetts	2.8	3.5	2.7	3.5	260	260	702	910
Michigan	43.0	45.0	42.5	43.5	350	355	14,875	15,443
Minnesota	50.0	47.0	48.0	45.0	425	460	20,400	20,700
Montana	10.9	11.0	10.5	10.0	330	350	3,465	3,500
Nebraska	19.5	20.0	19.4	19.8	425	410	8,245	8,118
Nevada	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.1	410	445	2,378	2,270
New Mexico	5.9	6.5	5.9	6.4	390	420	2,301	2,688
New York	18.0	17.1	17.8	16.5	320	300	5,696	4,950
North Dakota	82.0	83.0	81.0	75.0	280	250	22,680	18,750
Ohio	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.1	325	335	683	704
Oregon, ALL	35.3	37.0	35.3	37.0	529	570	18,676	21,090
- Malheur, Co. 2/	2.8		2.8		460		1,288	
- Other Areas 2/	32.5		32.5		535		17,388	
Pennsylvania	10.0	10.0	9.5	9.5	265	310	2,518	2,945
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	280	210	140	84
Washington	155.0	145.0	155.0	145.0	600	610	93,000	88,450
Wisconsin	63.5	63.5	62.0	63.0	415	460	25,730	28,980
TOTAL FALL	931.1	936.9	922.0	919.9	411	426	378,588	391,529
UNITED STATES	1,059.6	1,065.4	1,046.9	1,044.5	396	411	415,055	429,691

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.

2/ Estimates discontinued in 2009.